

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/980,301

Examiner

Yogesh C. Garg

Applicant(s)

YOSHIMINE ET AL.

Art Unit

3625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed on 10/24/2007 & Telephone Interview on 12/21/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8, 13-16, 24, 25 and 30-33.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

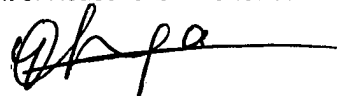
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 12/21/2007.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Yogesh C Garg
Primary Examiner
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DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/24/2007 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicant's amendment filed on 10/24/2007 is entered. Claims 1, 5, 13, 32 and 33 have been currently amended. Claims 9-12, 17-23, 26-29 were previously canceled. Claims 1-8, 13-16, 24, 25 and 30-33 are pending for examination.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with attorney Mr. Ronald Rudder on 12/21/2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 13 (Currently amended): A program storage medium to make an information processing device execute a program stored on said program storage medium,

wherein said program performs the function of:

registering user information of a content provider with a user information database, the information including at least information of a credit card of the content provider;

authenticating said user information;

receiving, when said user information is authenticated, over a network from a predetermined server personal content data which were personally created by [[a]] the content provider and display data for displaying a user contribution icon including a contribution button configured to be selected to indicate that a contribution is to be given to the content provider of the personal content data associated with said user contribution icon~ and given in consideration for sharing by the content provider of the personal content data over a network from a predetermined server;

displaying a display screen displaying the contribution icon and the personal content data, simultaneously;

providing an indication of an acceptance of the contribution from a registered user without a subsequent request for information regarding how payment is going to be made;

creating contribution data that corresponds to a given amount of the contribution after the contribution icon is selected on said content display screen; and

instructing a credit card company of said credit card of said content provider to make a settlement based on said created contribution data.

4. Claims allowed are 1-8, 13-16, 24-25, 30-33 out of which claims 1, 5, 13 and 33 are independent.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The cited art of record neither anticipates nor, alone or combined, renders obvious a computerized system or method executing steps, inter alia, as a whole,

registering user information of a content provider with a user information database, the information including at least information of a credit card of the content provider, receiving, when said user information is authenticated, over a network from a predetermined server content data personally created by the content provider and display data for displaying a user contribution icon including a contribution button

configured to be selected to indicate that a contribution is to be given to the content provider of the personal content data associated with said user contribution icon, displaying a display screen displaying the contribution icon and the personal content data, simultaneously; providing an indication of an acceptance of the contribution from a registered user without a subsequent request for information regarding how payment is going to be made, creating contribution data that corresponds to a given amount of the contribution after the contribution icon is selected on said content display screen, and instructing a credit card company of said credit card of said content provider to make a settlement based on said created contribution data (see independent claims 1, 5, 13 and 33).

The applicant's arguments filed on 10/24/2007 (see Amendment, pages 10-15) are compelling and persuasive in allowing the claim limitations over cited art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

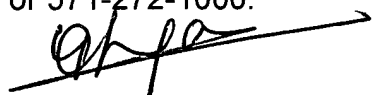
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yogesh C. Garg whose telephone number is 571-272-6756. The examiner can normally be reached on Increased Flex.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey A. Smith can be reached on 571-272-6763. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Yogesh C Garg
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3625

YCG
12/22/2007